

Pendergast, Jim

From: Evans, David
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2013 9:08 AM
To: Stoner, Nancy
Subject: RE: WOUS: FINAL Charge to External Peer Reviewers

Thanks, just wanted to be sure you were fine with this (before it showed up in FR.....)

Dave Evans

David S. Evans, Director
Wetlands Division
Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds
Phone: 202-566-0535

From: Stoner, Nancy
Sent: Tuesday, July 23, 2013 8:58 AM
To: Evans, David; Keehner, Denise
Cc: Frithsen, Jeff; Gilinsky, Ellen; Peck, Gregory; Kopocis, Ken; Srinivasan, Gautam; Fertik, Rachel
Subject: Re: WOUS: FINAL Charge to External Peer Reviewers

Looks fine to me

From: Evans, David
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2013 3:56:43 PM
To: Keehner, Denise
Cc: Frithsen, Jeff; Gilinsky, Ellen; Peck, Gregory; Kopocis, Ken; Stoner, Nancy; Srinivasan, Gautam; Fertik, Rachel
Subject: FW: WOUS: FINAL Charge to External Peer Reviewers

Denise and all,

I just spoke with Jeff on this, and he has planned that ORD would transmit the final charge to SAB tomorrow, July 23. He and I discussed that the most important aspect of the charge for OW may be the way the purpose of the report and how it will be used is characterized. My staff and I are comfortable that it is appropriately characterized, but want to ensure that OW senior managers are similarly comfortable. If anyone has comments or questions, please let me and Rachel Fertik know as early as you can, by early afternoon tomorrow if you possibly can.

I'll paste in the opening paragraph. (italics and bolding are my emphasis....)

*Understanding the physical, chemical, and biological connections by which streams, wetlands, and open-waters affect downstream waters such as rivers, lakes, and oceans is central to successful watershed management and to meeting water quality goals. It is also central to informing policy decisions that guide our efforts to meet these goals. **The purpose of this Report**, titled *Connectivity of Streams and Wetlands to Downstream Waters: A Review and Synthesis of the Scientific Evidence* is to summarize the current scientific understanding of broadly applicable ecological relationships that affect the condition or function of downstream aquatic ecosystems. The focus of the Report is on small or temporary non-tidal streams,*

wetlands, and open-waters. Examples of relevant connections include transport of physical materials such as water or wood, chemical compounds such as nutrients or pesticides, movement of biological organisms such as fish or insects, and processes or interactions that alter material transport, such as nutrient spiraling. Materials reviewed in this Report are limited to peer reviewed scientific literature. **Findings from this Report will help inform EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers** in their continuing policy work and efforts to clarify what waters are covered by the Clean Water Act. As a scientific review, the Report does not consider or make judgments regarding legal standards for Clean Water Act jurisdiction.

Dave Evans

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From: Frithsen, Jeff
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2013 8:56 AM
To: Stoner, Nancy; Keehner, Denise; Evans, David
Cc: Olden, Kenneth; Walsh, Debra; Vandenberg, John; Bussard, David; Alexander, Laurie; Fertik, Rachel
Subject: WOUS: FINAL Charge to External Peer Reviewers

Re: Draft report, *Connectivity of Streams and Wetlands to Downstream Waters: A Review and Synthesis of the Scientific Evidence*.

Attached are the final charge questions to the SAB external review panel.

SAB plans to release the charge questions, the draft report, and the announcement of the panel composition and meeting date all at the same time. I believe they are still targeting the first week in August. The panel meeting has not been scheduled, but I believe we are looking at sometime in November.

Jeff

Jeff Frithsen
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